

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5152
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000
ISSUE PRICE OF FOODGRAINS TO WEST BENGAL
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the issue prices of sugar, wheat and rice to West Bengal in 1998, 1999 and upto March, 2000;
- (b) whether the Government have received any complaint that in the Statutory rationing area and modified rationing area of West Bengal, poor quality of wheat at an exorbitantly high price than the issue price plus transport cost is offered to the consumer causing hardship on them; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to prevent it?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN)

(a) The Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of wheat and rice during the last three years, have been as under :-

1. Wheat : (Rs. per quintal)

Period	BPL	APL
1.6.1997 to 28.1.1999	250	450
29.1.1999 to 31.3.1999	250	650
1.4.1999 to 31.3.2000	250	682

2. Rice :

Common	Grade `A`			
Period	BPL	APL	BPL	APL
1.12.97 to 28.1.99	350	350	650	
29.1.99 to 1.3.2000	350	350	905	

3. Sugar :

The retail issue price of sugar is uniform in the country. The Retail Issue Price of sugar has been as under :-

(Rs. per kg.)	
With effect from 1.10.1997	11.40
With effect from 15.2.1999	12.00
With effect from 1.3.2000	13.00

(b) No, Sir. However, under the Open Market Sale Scheme of wheat, the issue prices for the East Zone were fixed at Rs. 725 per quintal, which was reduced to Rs. 697 per quintal from 3rd December, 1999. The issue prices under this Scheme have since been

increased to Rs. 900 per quintal with effect from 1st April, 2000 for all zones.

(c) Does not arise.